



Until There's a Cure

Progress on a Community Plan to Reduce HIV Infection in Mecklenburg County



Gibbie Harris
Mecklenburg County Public Health
Health Director
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Planning Process to Date



- Meeting with community partners - 3 meetings to date
- Informed PrEP Pilot, approved by BOCC on 12/19/17
- Created a framework for the plan based on best practice
- Identified strategies based on best practices
- Prioritized strategies
- Schedule of monthly meetings with 3 workgroups meeting regularly

Community Planning Partners

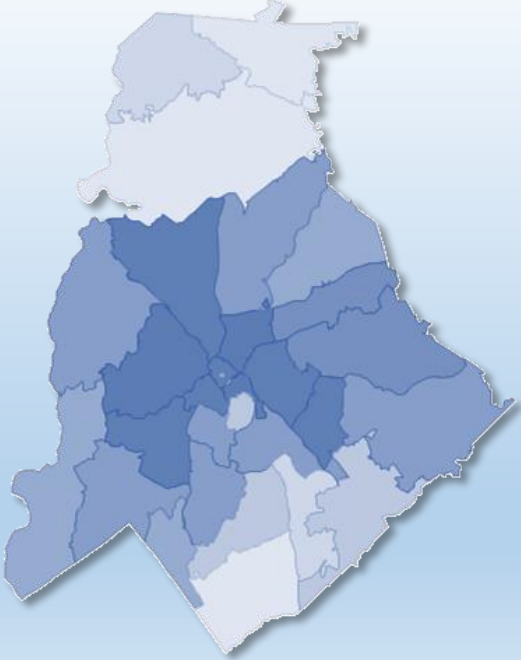


- 15th St Church of God
- APhi-UNCC
- Ballantyne Family Medicine
- Black Aids Institute
- C. W. Williams Community Health
- Carolinas Care Partnership
- Carolinas Health System
- Charlotte Community Health Center
- Charlotte Mecklenburg School
- Faith CME Church
- MeckPAC
- Myers Park Internal Medicine
- Novant Health
- Powerhouse
- Quality Home Care Services
- R.A.I.N
- Rockwell AME Zion Church

Snapshot of HIV/AIDS in MECKLENBURG

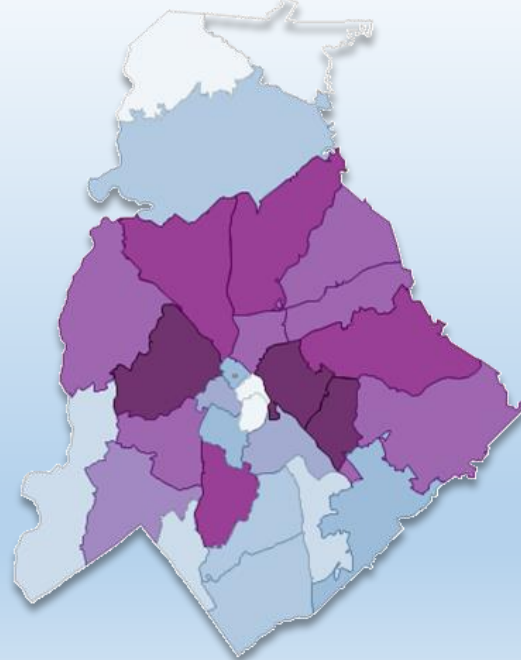


2016 HIV Prevalence Rates



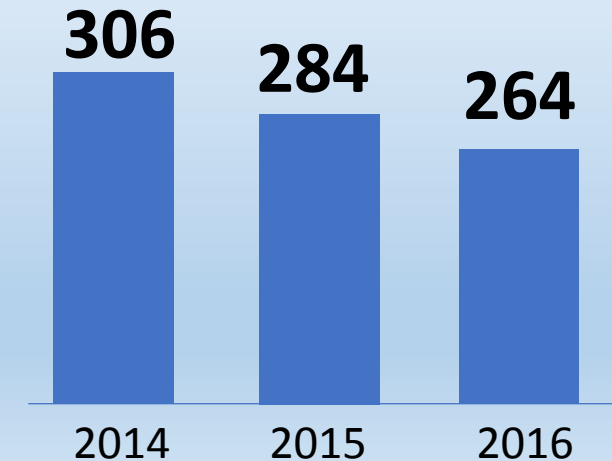
More than **6,630**
people in Mecklenburg
are living with HIV

2012- 2016 Newly Diagnosed HIV Infections



264
people were newly
diagnosed in 2016

Number of Newly Diagnosed HIV Infections
by Year of Diagnosis
(based on County of 1st Diagnosis)



Number of New Infections fell

14%

Between 2014 and 2016

Goal



Continuous reduction in new cases of HIV in Mecklenburg County

Note: Healthy People 2020 objective is 25% reduction in new cases.



Best Practices for Addressing HIV



- Primary Prevention

- Education

- Limiting your number of sexual partners
 - Never sharing needles
 - Using condoms

- Know your status – testing

- Secondary Prevention

- PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis)
 - PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis)

- Treatment as Prevention (TasP)

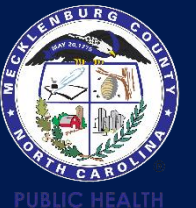
(prescribing anti-retrovirals to reduce the amount of virus in their blood reducing likelihood of infecting others)

- Locate, notify and educate individuals reported as HIV+
 - Partner notification
 - Counseling
 - Referral/navigation into medical care and support services
 - Provision of medical care and support services



Primary Prevention: Testing and Education

Best Practices for Addressing HIV



Top 5 Strategies



- Conduct community-wide media campaigns to increase the community's awareness of prevention strategies and local HIV-related resources
- Encourage both healthcare systems and community providers of care to make HIV testing a standard of care
- Provide current, accurate information and tools re: HIV prevention to schools and colleges
- Provide current, accurate information on HIV to the medical community (CDC screening recommendations, opt-out HIV testing, PrEP, and treatment as prevention)
- Expand testing in non-traditional locations and times (evenings and weekends)

Future Strategies



- Create position of Public Health liaison to African-American MSM community
- Increase use of rapid testing by Meck County Public Health
- Educate and provide current, accurate information and tools re: HIV prevention to the faith community
- Explore the provision of needle exchange / syringe disposal services in the community
- Encourage and support the faith community to sponsor HIV testing events targeted beyond congregations to neighborhoods and church-sponsored groups

Future Strategies



- Educate and provide current, accurate information and tools re: HIV prevention to barber shops/salons
- Increase use of rapid testing by providing test kits to community partners
- Increase participation of Public Health and/or partners in providing “open testing” linked to community events



Secondary Prevention: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

Best Practices for Addressing HIV



Top 4 Strategies



- Increase access to PrEP for the uninsured by sustaining and expanding Mecklenburg County Public Health's pilot PrEP project
- Mecklenburg County Public Health to provide leadership and logistical support for a PrEP providers collaborative to
 - educate medical providers,
 - strengthen links between providers and services supporting PrEP users, and
 - enhance the referral network to provide seamless continuity of services
- Conduct community education efforts to increase understanding of PrEP and awareness of PrEP provider locations
- Increase the availability of support services to those accessing PrEP to increase compliance and acceptance



Treatment as Prevention - Improving Outcomes for Those Living with HIV

Best Practices for Addressing HIV



Top 5 Strategies



- Encourage integrated care for persons living with HIV to include primary care and behavioral health services
- Expand patient navigation services
- Collaborate with infectious disease providers to explore newer models of linkage to care, such as “test and treat” strategies
- Utilize available needs assessment processes to identify gaps in services and opportunities for improvement in HIV care
- Collaborate with service providers to address social determinants of health



Initial Priorities for the HIV Community Plan

Best Practices for Addressing HIV



Overarching Community Strategies



- Sustain Community Participation in HIV Prevention Efforts
 - Utilize available needs assessment processes to identify gaps in services and opportunities for improvement
 - Establish data sharing agreements with community partners to better understand client utilization of testing, treatment and support services:
 - Who is using which service?
 - Where are they accessing services?
 - What is working well? What needs improvement?

Overarching Community Strategies



- Maintain community input into development and implementation of HIV-related services.
 - Provide ongoing feedback, necessary changes in response to emerging challenges.
 - Build community support for overall plan
 - Buy-in to roles in effective implementation.
- Engage community partners in funding strategies for this plan
- Develop an evaluation plan for all strategies

Overall: Top 5 HIV Strategies

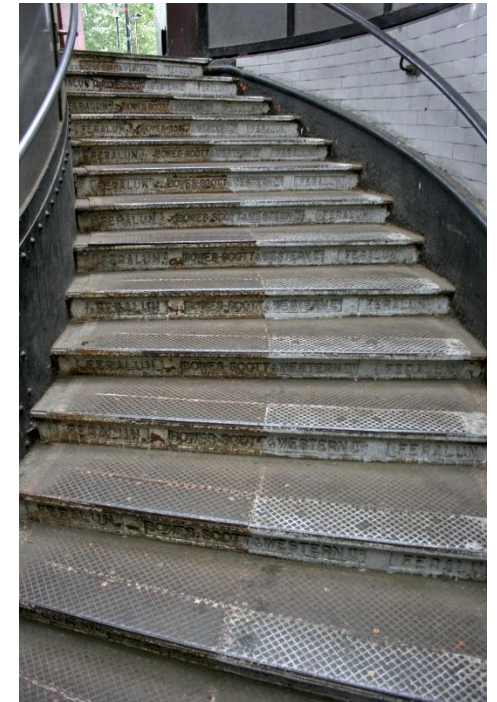


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- Conduct community education efforts to increase understanding of PrEP and awareness of PrEP provider locations
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Next Steps



- Continue to develop the specifics of the plan
 - Clearly define strategies
 - Determine the entities best suited to address each strategy
 - Develop measures for each strategy
 - Address community options for funding strategies
 - Finalize evaluation plan
- Provide biannual reports to the Board of County Commissioners





Questions